

Importance of Family Councils

- Residents speak for themselves.
- Residents help to choose services provided.
- Residents invite speakers of their choice.
- Residents can identify concerns and problem-solve.
- Residents can be a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves.
- Residents have the right to meet in privacy if they choose, without the interference of the facility staff.
- The Resident Council has the right to recommend changes regarding facility policies.
- If the facility does not already have a Resident Council, it must try to establish one.

Questions Please Contact Us

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

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Carson City, Nevada 89706
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775-687-4264 (Fax)

Las Vegas Regional Office
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Elko Regional Office
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Elko, Nevada 89801
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**To report concerns in a long term
care facility please call:
1-888-282-1155**

www.adsd.nv.gov

FAMILY COUNCILS

**An Informational
Brochure From the
Nevada Long Term Care
Ombudsman Program**



**State of Nevada
Aging and Disability
Services Division**

What is Resident Council?

An organization within the Nursing Home or Assisted Living Facility whose members are residents of the home. All residents in the facility can participate.

- A Resident Council is supported by Federal and state regulations.
- Resident Councils are self-governing.
- Residents are in control of the planning and running of the meeting as much as possible.
- Staff member will act as liaison.
- A staff member should only give as much assistance as the residents need or request.
- The facility must provide residents with a private meeting space.

Why have a Resident Council?

- Promote independence and personal growth.
- Provide opportunity for new relationships.
- Allows residents to speak out.
- Allows the resident to help the facility run more smoothly.
- Allows residents to play an active role in decisions made about their home life, such as activities, food, and personal care.
- Residents can promote and protect the rights of all residents in the facility.



Effective Resident Councils Can:

- Improve communication between staff and residents.
- Serve as a source of new ideas and help identify quality of life issues.
- Help individual residents speak up in a collective voice for improvement.
- Assist the facility in planning activities and events.
- Promote friendship between residents through regular meetings.
- Improve the atmosphere of the facility.
- Council always recruits new members.